(DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJAN): (a) and (b) The main battle tank is undergoing final phase of trials. Most of the improvements suggested by the Services have been incorporated. Product improvement for weapon system is however a continuous process. The tank has given excellent performance in trials held during Aug - Oct 1995. The Army is expected to give go-ahead for production shortly. Action for technology transfer to production agency and planning for productionisation are already under progress.

Placement of Orders for Locomotives, Wagons and Passenger Coaches

507. SHRI ASHOK MITRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of locomotives, wagons and passenger coaches for which orders have been placed overseas during the current financial year;

(b) the reasons for placing such orders despite availability of domestic production capacity; and

(c) the total outlay of foreign exchange likely to be called for towards implementation of the intended foreign purchases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) Orders have been placed during 1995-96 for supply of 21 nos. of 4000 HP Diesel Locomotives and 24 nos. Broad Gauge modern light weight coaches as per state-of-the-art technology on overseas suppliers. No order has been placed for wagons on the overseas suppliers.

(b) Diesel Locomotives and coaches presently being produced in India, are based on technology of 1950s vintage which needed upgradation. For this, a small number of 21 Diesel Locos and 24 coaches as referred to in (a) above are being imported, along with transfer of state-of-the-art technology for series manufacture in India.

(c) Orders for supplies of locomotives and coaches along with transfer of technology involve payments of US $ 58,210,668 and' Deutsche Marks 79,415,000, respectively in foreign exchange.

Increase in funds for armed forces

508. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to counter resumption of arms supply to Pakistan by USA; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to ensure increase in the funds required by the Armed Forecs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Government have under contemplation adequate measures to ensure full defence preparedness within the overall availability of funds.

(b) Government have not yet finalised the budgetary allocation for 96-97 relating to the Defence Services.

स्तन और गर्भाशय कैंसर नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम

509.**श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी** : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन की मदद से देश में स्तन और गर्भाशय कैंसर निंयत्रण कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कौन –कौन से कार्यकलाप शुरू किए गए हैं ;

(ख) किन –किन राज्यों में सहायता प्राप्त परियोजना को शुरू किया गया हैं ; और

(ग) क्या उक्त नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम से संबंधित योजना / परियोजना के मूल्याकंन के लिए कोई निगरानी कक्ष स्थपित किया गया हैं।